

Message Text

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TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJECT: MOLDAVIAN PREMIER PUT IN CHARGE OF AGRICULTURE IN GOSPLAN

REF: MOSCOW A-249

1. SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA OF SEPTEMBER 2 ANNOUNCES ON FRONT PAGE THE ACTION OF THE PRESIDUM OF THE MOLDAVIAN SUPREME SOVIET APPOINTING SEMEN KUZ'MICH GROSS AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

2. ON PAGE TWO A SMALL ITEM UNDER THE TITLE "KHRONIKA" REPORTS THAT P.A. PASKAR' WAS RELIEVED AS PREMIER AND FOREIGN MINISTER "IN CONNECTION WITH TRANSFER TO OTHER WORK."

3. COMMENT. PASKAR', THE OUTGOING PREMIER, HAS HAD A CAREER IN MOLDAVIAN AGRICULTURE; HE HAS BEEN PREMIER SINCE 1970. RECENTLY, HE WAS IDENTIFIED (IN AUGUST 12 SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN') AS THE NEW FIRST DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF GOSPLAN, APPARENTLY SUCCEEDING T.L. SOKOLOV AS ITS SPECIALIST IN AGRICULTURE. MOLDAVIA'S EXPERIEMTNS IN PROMOTING INTER-FARM ORGANIZATIONS WERE RECENTLY PRAISED IN SOVIET PRESS DISCUSSIONS OF THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S RESOLUTION

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OF JUNE 2 ON AGRICULTURE. SOKOLOV, ON THE OTHER HAND,

WAS APPARENTLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE POLICIES OF POLYANSKIY AND THE ADVOCATES OF HIGH INVESTMENT SUPPORT FOR AGRICULTURE. HIS REPLACEMENT BY PASKAR' THEREFORE SEEMS TO STRENGTHEN THE ADVOCATES OF LOWER--OR AT LEAST MORE CONSERVATIVE--LEVELS OF INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE IN FAVOR OF IMPROVED MANAGEMENT AND PROMOTION OF SELF-HELP SCHEMES ON THE LOCAL LEVEL, SUCH AS INTER-FARM COOPERATION AND AGRO-INDUSTRIAL INTEGRATION, AS RECOMMENDED IN THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE RESOLUTION AND AS RECENTLY SPELLED OUT IN DETAIL BY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE MESYATS(SEE REFAIR).

4. AT AUGUST 31 QUADRIPARTITE MEETING UK AMBASSADOR SMITH REPORTED THAT WHEN HE VISITED MESYATS TO PREPARE WEEK-LONG VISIT OF UK SECSTATE FOR AGRICULTURE BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 11, SMITH'S QUESTION ABOUT INTER-FARM COOPERATION AND IMPORTANCE OF MOLDAVIAN KOLKHOZ COUNCIL EXPERIMENT HAD BEEN GREETED BY RIPPLE OF LAUGHTER AROUND TABLE, AND MESYATS HAD LIMITED HIS REPLY TO ITNER-FARM COOPERATION ONLY. BRITISH HAVE PROMISED TO PASS ON ANY NEW DETAILS DEVELOPED DURING VISIT.

5. GROSS IS NOT LISTED AS A MEMBER OF THE USSR SUPREME SOVIET, NOR DO WE HAVE ANYTHING ON HIM IN OUR FILES. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING A BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH.
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